## Amendments to the claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of the claims:

1.     (Currently Amended)  A memory device comprising:

a ~~nonvolatile~~ first data area that stores first data that are not encrypted ~~and that can be read and written~~;

a ~~nonvolatile first key~~ second data area that stores ~~first key~~ second data that are not encrypted ~~can be written but can not be read~~;

a ~~nonvolatile second key~~ third data area that stores ~~second key~~ third data that are input from outside ~~can be written but can not be read~~;

a fourth data area that stores fourth data that are obtained by encrypting the second data; and

a controller that allows reading or writing of the first data when the ~~first key~~ third data matches with the second ~~key~~ data, wherein

the third data is obtained by decrypting the fourth data.

2.     (Currently Amended)   The memory device according to claim 1, further comprising a comparing unit that compares the ~~first key~~ third data with the second ~~key~~ data, wherein

the controller allows the reading or the writing of the first data based on the result of comparison performed by the comparing unit.

3.     (Currently Amended)  The memory device according to claim 2, if the ~~first key~~ third data match the second ~~key~~ data, the comparing unit authorizes the reading or the writing of the first data, and if the ~~first key~~ third data do not match the second ~~key~~ data, the comparing unit inhibits the reading and the writing of the first data.

4.    (Cancelled)

5.    (Currently Amended)  The memory device according to ~~claim 4~~claim 2, ~~further comprising a comparing unit that compares the first key data with the second key data,~~ wherein

the controller allows the reading or the writing of the ~~second~~ fourth data based on the result of comparison performed by the comparing unit.

6.    (Currently Amended)  The memory device according to claim 5, wherein if the ~~first key~~ third data match the second ~~key~~ data, the comparing unit authorizes the reading or the writing of the ~~second~~ fourth data, and if the ~~first key~~ third data do not match the second ~~key~~ data, the comparing unit authorizes only the reading but inhibits the writing of the ~~second~~ fourth data.

7.    (Currently Amended)  The memory device according to claim 1, further comprising a ~~third~~ fifth data area that stores ~~third~~ fifth data that ~~are set when the first key data are stored, and are cleared when the first key data is reset~~ indicate whether the second data is stored in the second data area.

8.    (Currently Amended)  The memory device according to claim 1, further comprising a communication unit that receives the first data, the ~~first key~~ second data, and the ~~second key~~ third data from the outside, and output the first data and the fourth data to the outside.

9.    (Original)  The memory device according to claim 1, wherein the memory device is driven by an external electric power supply.

10.    (Currently Amended)  The memory device according to claim 1, wherein the first data area, the second data area, the third data area, and the fourth data area are

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~~the first data area is divided into a plurality of sub data areas each containing the first data, the first key data area is divided into a plurality of sub key data areas each containing the first key data, the second key data area is divided into a plurality of sub key registers each containing the second key data, and if the first key data stored in a desired one of the sub first key data areas matches with the second key data stored in a corresponding one of the sub second key data areas, the controller allows the reading or the writing of the first data in a corresponding of the sub data area.~~

11.    (Currently Amended)  The memory device according to claim 10, wherein all the sub-data areas of the first data area have a same memory capacity.

12.    (Currently Amended)  The memory device according to claim 10, wherein each of the sub-data areas of the first data area has a different memory capacity.

13.    (Currently Amended)  The memory device according to claim 10, wherein a memory capacity of each of the sub-data areas of the first data area is set based on a length of data to be stored therein.~~in the sub data area.~~

14.    (Currently Amended)  The memory device according to claim 1, wherein the first data area and the ~~first key~~ second data area are composed of a ferroelectric memory that holds the data by means of remnant polarization.

15.    (Currently Amended)  A memory access limiting system, comprising:

a memory device that includes:

a ~~nonvolatile~~ first data area that stores first data that are not encrypted ~~and that can be read and written~~;

a ~~nonvolatile first key~~ second data area that stores ~~first key~~ second data

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that are not encrypted ~~can be written but can not be read~~;

a ~~nonvolatile second key~~ third data area that stores ~~second key~~ third data that are input from outside ~~can be written but can not be read~~;

a fourth data area that stores fourth data that are obtained by encrypting the second data; and

a controller that allows reading or writing of the first data when the ~~first key~~ third data matches ~~with~~ the second ~~key~~ data;

a writing unit that writes the first data into the first data area and the ~~first key~~ second data into the ~~first key~~ second data area;

a first interface unit that is used for transmission and reception of data between the writing unit and the memory device;

a reading/writing unit that reads the fourth data from the fourth data area and writes the ~~second key~~ third data into the ~~second key~~ third data area, and accesses the first data area for reading and writing the first data; and

a second interface unit that is used for transmission and reception of data between the reading/writing unit and the memory device, wherein

the third data is obtained by decrypting the fourth data.

16-30. (Cancelled)